The Highlander

Thursday Sept 18 2025 | Issue 707

INSIDE: COLLEGE SUPPORT STAFF ON STRIKE PAGE 5 FREE

All in the same boat

Pippa Stephenson of EarlyON, Madison Tyson of community support services, Carnarvon Family Golf owner Chris Near, Marg Cox of Point in Time, Shantal Ingram of the United Way and Mark Giese, on the board of United Way at the agency's recent campaign launch. See more on page 2. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Walk-in clinic step to mental wellness

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County agencies that work with people with mental health challenges have welcomed the Sept. 18 opening of a new walk-in clinic.

The Canadian Mental Health Association Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (CMHA HKPR) last week announced the mental health walk-in clinic at 6 McPherson St.

Beginning Thursday, Sept. 18, the clinic will operate one day a week on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with CMHA HKPR saying it will offer timely access to mental health support for individuals aged 16 and older.

Calli Lorente, manager of integrated crisis services at CMHA HKPR, said the clinic "offers immediate access to a mental health professional who can listen, help explore needs, and guide toward effective next steps." She added it is designed for people not currently connected to CMHA services, but ready to explore options for their mental health.

The expansion builds on the CMHA HKPR's existing walk-in clinics in Lindsay and Peterborough, which have served more than 200 people since February 2025.

Lorente said the model offers face-to-face support in real time "which can make all the difference when taking that first step toward mental wellness.

"We're excited to bring this service to Minden," she said. "This clinic offers a low-barrier entry point for people seeking

Continued **'Clinic'** on page 2

Highlander news

United Way adds Haliburton to family

By Lisa Gervais

The newly-renamed United Way Haliburton Kawartha Lakes launched its annual campaign at Carnarvon Family Golf Sept. 5.

Executive director Shantal Ingram said the event was partially to introduce the new name. It used to be called United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes.

"It was really important for us to include 'Haliburton' because it is an important part of the work that we do," she said.

Ingram added it is traditional for United Way to kick off its fundraising campaigns with a lunch event and they were "excited to get the campaign off and running."

They have a community capacity grant with recipients changing every year, depending on who applies. However, they have funded Point in Time, SIRCH meal programs and EarlyON. Haliburton Highlands Health Services volunteers bring a van to Edwin Binney's community farm and education centre in Lindsay every couple of weeks and fill it with fresh produce. The food is dispersed to five different locations.

One recent change has seen the LCBO move away from United Way as its recipient of the LCBO at the till program, which has impacted fundraising. Ingram said they'd like to get it back.

Left: The OPPs Joel Imbeau, who works on the mobile crisis response time in the County. Right: Calli Lorente, manager of integrated crisis services at CMHA HKPR.

"You've got to just make the best of the situation because we know the programming we're funding in both locations is doing really amazing work, and the agencies are really amazing."

Pippa Stephenson, executive director of EarlyON, said, "for decades, United Way has supported us, here in Haliburton it's probably been more so since the pandemic, with the LCBO at the till."

She said the money has enabled them to bring different programs to the community; such as stroller-size, baby and mom yoga, and the use of Abbey Gardens for some outdoor programming for families.

"This year, we're excited because what we've decided to do is put together some packages with activities, and books for children, a gift card, those are going to be distributed with picnic blankets through the food banks in Wilberforce, Cardiff, Minden and Haliburton."

The United Way Haliburton Kawartha Lakes helps tackle challenging problems through financial support for agencies and programming. They address what they call the "three pillars of poverty to possibility, all that kids can be, healthy people, and strong communities."

Programming is about accessing food, maintaining housing, accessing safety equipment to help children have a safe start in life; finding safe spaces to connect; receiving mentorship; and making connections to feel at home in the community.

The community farm provides fresh produce to 30 food banks and organizations, donating nearly 85,000 pounds of produce since 2019. Nearly 2,400 people have been served through food distribution programs annually. An average of $50,000 of food is given out for free to 13 community food agencies every year – equal to approximately 4,500 meals each season. Ingram added more than 700 kids and youth attend the farm for educational programming every year.

Clinic to augment mobile support services

Continued from page 1

support and reflects our commitment to meeting the mental health needs of the community."

The CMHA said the walk-in clinic is not intended for individuals in crisis. They encourage anyone experiencing mental health crisis to reach out for immediate support by calling or texting the 9-8-8 National Suicide Crisis Helpline.

Lorente said, "this new clinic in Minden is another meaningful step toward ensuring residents of Haliburton County have accessible, timely, and compassionate mental health care when they need it most."

Marg Cox, executive director of Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents, welcomed the clinic's arrival.

"I am thrilled to see the walk-in clinic open in Minden on Thursday. This means people have access to quick and timely help. Timely help and support are shown to make a real difference and help improve the outcomes.

"We have been utilizing this model internally at our agency and have received both great feedback from clients and significantly reduced our waitlists. Congratulations to CMHA – and it is a great service to augment The Road Ahead Mobile Clinic."

The Road Ahead is CMHA HKPR's new mobile mental health and addictions clinic. It brings a full range of mental health and addictions services to individuals living in rural and remote areas and who face barriers to accessing existing services and supports.

The clinic operates out of two vehicles that travel throughout the City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, Peterborough and Northumberland Counties, providing: counselling and therapy; support with addictions and substance use; health and mental health education; medication support and access to other supports, including psychiatry

The OPP's Joel Imbeau, who works on the mobile crisis response team (MCRT) in the County, also welcomed the walk-in clinic.

He said it, "will allow clients to proactively initiate services for their mental health. It will allow access to services without barriers in hopes of preventing crisis situations. The clinic will provide clients with care at their pace and assist with engaging appropriate referrals.

"This will hopefully help to proactively decrease the amount of crisis situations needing MCRT engagement. It will also assist clients who are unsure of how to get connected, or which services to utilize to be assisted in a timely manner."

For more information about the mental health walk-in clinic or other CMHA HKPR services, visit www.cmhahkpr.ca. To access The Road Ahead Mobile clinic, phone 705-991-3551, or toll free 1-888-357-1294 or email tra@cmhahkpr.ca

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Highlander news

Answer still no to Bobcaygeon Rd tower

By Lisa Gervais

A Minden Hills council decision not to support a cell tower on Bobcaygeon Road will result in reduced coverage for homes, and service gaps along major roadways, the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) has told the township.

In a letter dated Aug. 27, which was tabled at a Sept. 11 council meeting, EORN's CEO Jason St. Pierre, said Rogers would not be pursuing an alternative tower site within the municipality to replace the one council would not sign a letter of concurrence for.

While saying EORN respected council's decision, St. Pierre outlined the technical impacts of the stance on mobile service in the area.

He said the site council knocked back was based on detailed engineering analysis to address service gaps.

Without implementation, he added "approximately 200 homes in the surrounding area will remain underserved or experience intermittent service, limiting residents' access to reliable voice and data services, including for emergency communications."

St. Pierre added, "coverage improvements along Hwy. 35 will not be realized, leaving connectivity gaps that will have impacts to those travelling along Hwy. 35, including residents, visitors to the area. and emergency responders."

He said they won't be looking for a new site, since the proposed location of Bobcaygeon Road and Scotch Line Road was identified as the most technically viable solution when evaluated against the project's scope, timelines and budget.

St. Pierre thanked township staff – who recommended the letter of concurrence.

He added, "EORN remains committed to collaborating with the Township of Minden Hills wherever possible to expand and enhance mobile services. However, the absence of the C8590 tower will limit the improvements achievable in this part of the municipality under the current project."

Upon receipt of the letter, coun. Tammy McKelvey tabled a motion to reconsider the July 31 knockback by a majority of councillors.

"I just felt that the EORN correspondence that we received did provide some new information with regard to the cell tower on Bobcaygeon Road and I've asked that council consider reconsideration of that issue and that is the reason for my resolution under our procedural bylaw," she said. Her notice was seconded by deputy mayor Lisa Schell.

Schell said, "I'd like to know why EORN didn't mention Hwy. 35 before, if it was their intent that they would cover Mountain Lake, after six months of discussion; and why the Rogers map does not show Hwy. 35 getting the improved service if it actually does. Because all of these people sitting in this room (the gallery and some councillors) have every reason to be concerned if they weren't contacted and it would change the cell service there. So, I think it's important that consultant Spectra Point Inc. comes back with EORN and Rogers, and maybe the CAO can check in with that."

Coun. Tammy McKelvey's motion for reconsideration was defeated. *File.*

However, council did not get that far as the motion failed to get a two-thirds majority vote for reconsideration. Council stuck with its original decision and there will be no tower sited at the location.

EORN did not respond to a *Highlander* question about whether Hwy. 35 and Mountain Lake were discussed in their dealings with residents and council.

Highlander news

A snow plow does winter maintenance in Highlands East. *Submitted.*

Highlands East tightening roadworks

By Lisa Gervais

The Municipality of Highlands East has put some churches, legions, and private road residents on notice they will need agreements, and insurance, as of Nov. 1 if they want the municipality to continue to maintain these properties.

The program is going to be reviewed in 2026. At a Sept. 9 council meeting, public works manager, Perry Kelly, raised the issue.

He said the municipality had historically provided maintenance services, including snow removal, on properties not under its ownership, and with no formal agreements in place.

He said it included private property, roads, and land under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

"While these services were provided with good intentions, they now present significant concerns regarding liability, cost, and resource allocation," Kelly said.

He added, "the expectation from private and non-municipal property owners for continued service places undue pressure on municipal staff and resources. This diverts attention from municipally-owned infrastructure and compromises service quality and efficiency."

Staff consulted with their insurance provider and solicitor. While the municipality has a duty to maintain public highways in its jurisdiction, diverting resources to private and Crown land puts them at risk of being unable to fulfill that duty, Kelly said, putting them in danger of negligence claims.

As for the private and Crown land, he added, "in the event of a slip, trip, fall, or motor vehicle accident, a claimant could pursue legal action against the municipality, irrespective of legal ownership."

He said the average unit cost per winter event is more than $1,300 during regular hours and more with overtime. Kelly was further worried that continuation of the maintenance activities may set a precedent leading to further requests from other private property owners for the same service.

He presented four options to council for their consideration: stop the maintenance immediately and tell property owners to make other arrangements; do Crown land only, with agreements and insurance; continue but get agreements and insurance; or maintain the status quo. Council opted for a slightly revised option three.

Coun. Cam McKenzie said he'd had some residents, particularly from churches and legions, express concerns about the impact.

"Financially, probably most of them are on thin ice. If this comes to pass, some may close." He said that would impact the work they do in the community. He added the timing was not great, soon going into the winter season. Coun. Angela Lewis agreed.

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall commented, "it's a service that we don't have to supply but morally should be supplying." However, he shared liability concerns. He was not in favour of the status quo, thinking option three was the way to go.

Mayor Dave Burton said with tight timing, he'd prefer status quo this year, moving to option three in 2026.

CAO Brittany McCaw suggested they still try to get agreements in place this year, with a minimum $5 million liability. "Then we can review this program again next year to decide what it is you decide to do moving forward."

The decision impacts four churches, two legions, five roads and a staging area, two MNRF properties, an MTO property, and one unassumed laneway.

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• Join us for the opening reception of *Haycock: One Family's Canvas of Canada* on Saturday, September 20 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. This exhibition celebrates the remarkable story of how a chance encounter in 1927 in Canada's Arctic sparked nearly a century of painting. See separate ad for details.

• The Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group and Home Children Canada's president Lori Oschefski present *Canada's British Home Children - A Hidden History* on Wednesday, September 17 at 1:30 pm at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. The story of the over 100,000 destitute children who were forcibly sent to Canada between 1869 and the 1940s, some in Haliburton County. For more information: hhggroup@gmail.com.

• The Minden Hills Museum and Heritage Village and Nature's Place are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until October 11. Daily drop-in programs are offered Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 11 am.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

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REPORTING ISSUES

Reporting issues such as road condition or maintenance needs can be done by calling 705-286-3144 Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. After hours emergencies can be reported by calling 1-866-856-3247.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

• September 25 – Regular Council Meeting
• October 9 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

FALL PROGRAMS

It's not too late to register for our fall youth programs. Programs include basketball, floor hockey, creative minds and volleyball. Sign up online at www.mindenhills.ca/recreation or in person at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

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Highlander news

Support staff at the Haliburton School of Art + Design have been on strike since Sept. 11. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

HSAD support staff take to picket line

By Mike Baker

Jennifer Downham has been involved in several strike actions during her 36 years of working at the Haliburton School of Art + Design (HSAD), but she feels this latest one, launched Sept. 11, is different.

More than 10,000 full-time college support workers are striking across Ontario, impacting operations at 24 publicly-funded institutions. Here in Haliburton, about 15 HSAD support staffers are picketing daily off-campus on College Drive. They share a united voice, Downham said.

"This is about protecting schools, protecting local education," Downham told *The Highlander* during a Sept. 16 interview. "Over the last couple of years, there has been over 10,000 people laid off [and 650 program cancellations] across Ontario. Things are shifting… I'm worried about the future of public post-secondary education."

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), representing the workers, claims provincial funding for colleges has dropped 30 per cent since 2013/2014. It further claims that per-student funding in Ontario is the lowest in Canada, at approximately 56 per cent of the national average.

JP Hornick, president of OPSEU/SEFPO, believes this is a "government-led agenda to systematically defund Ontario colleges." They claim investments in non-college private training programs, through the province's Skills Development Fund, has increased by 800 per cent since 2020, with $2.5 billion spent thus far and another $1 billion committed over the next three years.

Full-time support staffers saw their contracts expire Aug. 31. OPSEU Local 351 president Marcia Steeves said, provincially, 77 per cent of employees voted in favour of a strike mandate last month. Across Fleming College, which employees 250 support staff, including 15 at HSAD, 79.8 per cent were in favour of striking.

"This is a fight not just for an improved contract – it is about the future of student supports at colleges across Ontario," Steeves added.

Since 2020, she confirmed HSAD had lost four full-time staffers, dropping from seven academic support roles to three.

Downham was one of 29 Fleming employees to be informed in July that their positions were being terminated. A coordinator for the arts certificate program, her last day is Oct. 9, but there's no guarantee she'll be back on campus before then.

Joining HSAD when courses were run out of the old schoolhouse in Haliburton village, Downham said she's watched the school blossom and grow in her three-plus decades of employment but is now fearful for its future.

"It would be like one of my children being harmed in some way [if it were to close]. It breaks my heart to see the way things are going… the arts are woven into the fabric of this community and HSAD plays a major role in that.

"I feel like if we don't do something soon, our public college system is going to completely dissolve," Downham said.

A Fleming College spokesperson said classes at HSAD are continuing to run as scheduled, though would not comment on the strike action.

Deal 'not close'

The College Employer Council (CEC) is ready to negotiate, its CEO Graham Lloyd said, though he has labelled the union's response to the latest offers "unacceptable."

He told *The Highlander* the CEC had offered a package totalling $145 million in increased benefits over three years, but that the union's counter would set colleges back about $400 million – at a time when, he claims, enrollments are down by about 50 per cent compared to 2023/24.

The offer includes a two per cent wage increase per year; a 75 per cent increase in on-call premiums; enhanced vision and hearing benefits; improvements to job security from AI; and 50 per cent increase to severance packages for employees laid off due to the current financial crisis.

OPSEU is asking that CEC commits, in the contract, to maintaining all existing college campuses for the next three years and prohibit any college merger or staff layoffs.

After failing to make any headway Sept. 16, the fifth day of the strike, Lloyd said the union needs to reassess its position if a deal is to be reached.

"Four of their demands, we've told them, we could never accept," Lloyd said. "We don't know where we'll be in three years. It'd be fiscally imprudent to be able to guarantee that.

"No college wants to be in this position, but there's a reality that, for reasons outside the college's control, they've had massive cutbacks and that has had an impact," Lloyd added, blaming the federal government's limitations on international student for the current financial predicament.

With no agreement in sight, he suggested the best alternative is going to third-party arbitration – saying that was an effective way of striking a new three-year deal with academic staff in June.

"Spend a few days with a mediator and then, if we still can't come to a resolution, they will act as an arbitrator and impose [a new contract]," Lloyd said.

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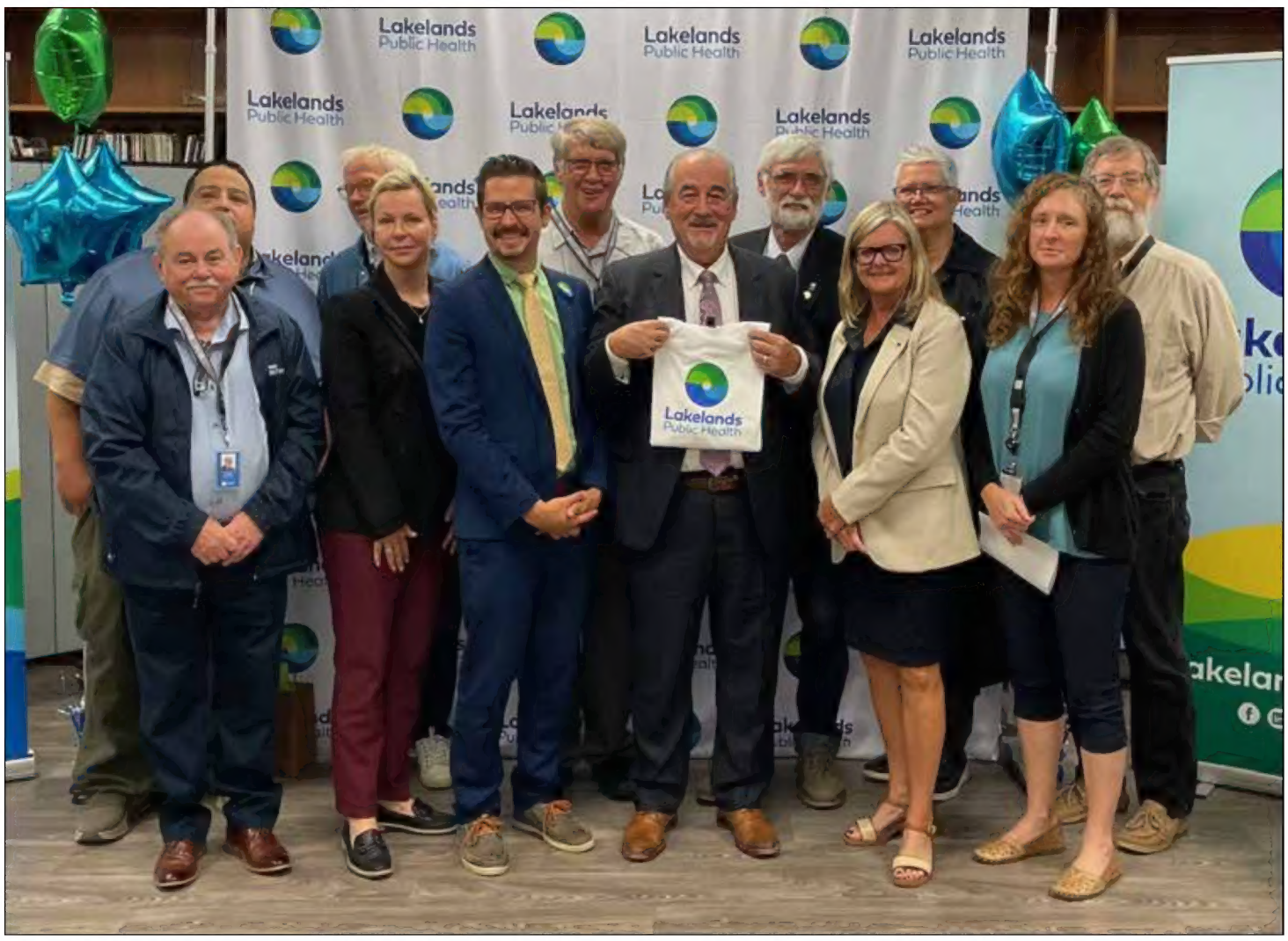

The health unit covering Haliburton County will now be known as Lakelands Public Health. *Submitted.*

Health unit unveils new brand

By Mike Baker

The recently-merged public health agency covering Haliburton County, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County and Peterborough launched a new brand identity last week – now collectively known as Lakelands Public Health (LPH).

The union between the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit (HKPR) and Peterborough Public Health (PPH) was approved by both boards and the provincial government in December 2024, coming into effect on Jan. 1.

The decision was made after the figurehead of each agency – Dr. Natalie Bocking at HKPR and Dr. Thomas Piggott at PPH – said annual funding increases from the Ministry of Health, capped at one per cent for the next three years, weren't enough to maintain current service levels.

The Ontario government has committed $10.1 million to support the partnership – with $2.5 million of that used to pay off a mortgage on PPH's home base at 185 King St. in Peterborough, which will serve as Lakelands Public Health's headquarters. All former HKPR offices, in Port Hope, Lindsay and Haliburton, will be maintained as satellite locations.

Unveiling the new brand Sept. 11, Piggott, LPH's medical officer of health, said the transformation reflects a unified vision for advancing public health across the region.

"This is more than a new name and logo, it's a commitment to building a healthier future together for generations to come," Piggott said. "By bringing our teams, expertise, and resources under one identity, we're better equipped to meet the evolving needs of our communities."

He said people will continue to access "the wide range of public health programs and services they rely on," such as immunizations, infectious disease prevention, environmental health and emergency preparedness.

When announcing the merger, the two health units committed to continuing all existing programs and maintaining existing staff levels. HKPR employed about 170 people and PPH 130 people.

LPH board chair Ron Black said the merger, now nine months in, has enhanced coordination and partnerships with many other health-related organizations across the region.

He believes the new brand identity "reflects who we are today and the collective impact we will have moving forward.

"Our communities deserve a strong, unified public health system that responds to local priorities while preparing for future challenges," Black said.

The transition will be phased in over several months, with updates to signage, online platforms and program materials. A new website has been launched – for more information, visit lakelandsph.ca.

New drug lead

The Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland Drug Strategy announced Ashley Smoke has joined the group as its new drug strategy coordinator.

With over 10 years of experience in harm reduction, overdose response, Indigenous health systems, and as someone with lived experience, Smoke brings a fresh perspective and a deep commitment to promoting health, safety and resilience, said the group's board chair, Dane Record.

"We're excited to welcome Ashley to this important role. Their experience and passion for community engagement will strengthen our collective efforts to address the complex challenges of substance use with compassion strategy and innovation," Record said.

In her new role, Smoke will lead the implementation of the local drug strategy – a collaborative, evidence-informed approach aimed at reducing substance-related harms through prevention, education, harm reduction, treatment and enforcement partnerships.

"This is a critical time to come together as a community and take bold, coordinated action," said Smoke. "I intend to highlight the great community work in motion and look forward to finding sustainable funding solutions to improve those efforts already underway."

As of Aug. 31, there have been 153 emergency department visits in Haliburton County, Kawartha Lakes and Northumberland County due to drug overdose, with 26 suspected opioid-related deaths.

For more information, or to access support and services, contact coordinator@hkprdrugstrategy.ca.

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AH addresses Big Hawk Lake concerns

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands council has opted to reduce the speed limit and install speed bumps along the busiest section of Big Hawk Lake Road, from the log chute to the marina, despite recent traffic data suggesting at least 85 per cent of drivers travel under the current 50 km/h threshold.

In July, the township heard from Chris Ewles, general manager of Big Hawk Lake Marina, who pitched lowering the speed limit, establishing a community safety zone and installing speed bumps, cameras, a stop sign and pedestrian crossings to alleviate safety concerns.

Ewles told council he has witnessed many near misses involving vehicles and pedestrians due to speeding and dangerous driving over the past 18 months.

Public works director Adam Thorn, at a recent meeting, said that, in response to those concerns, municipal staff had two digital speed radars on the road from July 29 to Aug. 5 – one just past the log chute parking lot and the other by the marina.

The first sign clocked 872 inbound vehicles, with 90.14 per cent traveling at or under the posted limit, and 899 outbound vehicles, of which 84.98 per cent were moving at an acceptable speed.

At the second camera location, only two of 716 inbound vehicles (99.71 per cent) and one of 737 outbound vehicles (99.86 per cent) exceeded the 50 km/h limit. Most, at 77.23 per cent, were travelling less than 30 km/h, with 19.97 per cent travelling between 31 and 40 km/h.

Chris Ewles at Big Hawk Lake Marina earlier this summer. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

"I was very surprised by the data, especially around the marina. That 99 per cent of the public are travelling the speed limit or less than, that's really good to see. I don't know how you can get much better than that in a rural area," Thorn said.

He noted the devices clocked between 102 and 125 vehicles per day on average, a significant reduction from the 225 vehicles per day recorded during a 2017 study.

Mayor Liz Danielsen suggested the issue was more about congestion than speed.

"This is something where we have traffic moving in all directions, a public landing, a beach," Danielsen said, expressing her preference to reduce the speed limit. "We do have a responsibility for the safety of our residents."

Earlier in the meeting, council heard from Shelley Fellows and Jim Anderson of the Halls and Hawks Lakes Property Owners Association (HHLPOA), who said about 300 people had expressed concern this year over risks to public safety, personal property and vehicles due to congestion and a lack of parking on the lake system.

They asked council to improve parking options – Danielsen said the township has considered adding to the 28 angled spots by the marina, with Thorn saying a proposed redesign of the road could see up to 80 new spots created between the marina and the log chute.

"The road is supposed to be two lanes wide – it will be once it's rebuilt. Right now, with the parking, it's only a lane-and-a-half wide, and obviously worse in the wintertime," Thorn said.

Policy needed

Following a hearty discussion, council opted to drop the posted limit to 30 km/h from the log chute to the marina, while also calling on Thorn to investigate installing two seasonal speed bumps in front of the marina building.

"While I'm happy to see the driving stats, it's clear there's still fear in the community," Dailloux said.

Danielsen added, "people are doing the speed limit, but maybe it's not the right speed limit for the area. It's truly congested compared to a lot of other areas. It's rather unique."

Thorn said the speed limit around speed bumps will likely have to drop to 15 km/h, while he confirmed staff will install signs warning drivers about potential pedestrians ahead.

To ensure fairness and consistency, Thorn recommended council develop a policy for changing speed limits.

"We need to have a wholesome conversation about thresholds and what triggers the response to lower a speed limit. Do we do a traffic assessment like this, where we put signs up, pull the data and anything below 75 per cent we can start talking about it? Should that number be 85 per cent? We need some kind of agreement," he said.

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Editorial opinion

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To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Actions not words

By Lisa Gervais

An acquaintance of mine reached out the other day to complain about mental health services in Haliburton County.

They had a client who was struggling. In attempting to find the client help, they began making telephone calls. After many calls, and many telephone automated systems, they were told their client had to go to a walk-in clinic in Lindsay or Peterborough. Not a short jaunt … at about an hour and 20 minutes from Haliburton. There goes a morning or an afternoon, not to mention a chunk of gas money. For working folks, it might be tricky. For those without transportation, nearly impossible.

So, I welcome news the Canadian Mental Health Association, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (CMHA HKPR) is opening a new mental health walk-in clinic at the Minden health hub, site of the former emergency department.

It opens today (Sept. 18) and will run every Thursday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. for 16-year-olds and up.

For as long as I've lived in the Highlands, I've felt as though our County is a bit of a tack on to some agencies based out of Peterborough and Lindsay. While Haliburton might be in the name, the services always seemed to be lacking.

In recent months, I have seen a shift and would be interested in hearing from clients as to whether or not services are better.

In addition to this new walk-in clinic, CMHA HKPR has had a van coming to the community since February.

The Road Ahead Mobile Clinic is for people with mental health and addictions challenges. It brings a full range of mental health and addictions services to individuals living in rural and remote areas, and who face barriers to accessing existing services and supports.

The clinic operates out of two vehicles that travel throughout the City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, Peterborough and Northumberland Counties, providing: counselling and therapy; support with addictions and substance use; health and mental health education; medication support and access to other help, including psychiatry.

On paper, these programs could be game changers for many in the County.

I also welcomed the recent renaming of United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes to United Way Haliburton Kawartha Lakes.

They kicked off their annual campaign at Carnarvon Family Golf Sept. 5.

Executive director Shantal Ingram told *The Highlander* it was important for them to include 'Haliburton' because it is a key part of the work they do.

They have a community capacity grant with recipients changing every year, depending on who applies. However, they have funded Point in Time, SIRCH meal programs, and EarlyON. Haliburton Highlands Health Services volunteers bring a van to Edwin Binney's community farm and education centre in Lindsay every couple of weeks and fill it with fresh produce. The food is dispersed to five different local locations.

And, lastly, it will be interesting to see how the newly-renamed regional health unit continues to operate in Haliburton County. Lakelands Public Health is the new moniker. While we ponder what the changes will mean in future, we do feel better knowing that Highlands East councillor, and County councillor, Cec Ryall, is deputy chair of the board of directors. We know he always has Highlanders' interest at heart around the board table.

Our call to action is to challenge more Peterborough and Lindsay-based agencies and organizations that purport to serve Haliburton County to do so with action, not only words or names.

SAWDUST STORIES

Where the work begins

By Darren Lum

After 23 years in journalism, I thought I knew work; how it shapes you, what it demands, what it teaches. But stepping away from the newsroom into the trades has shown me something else: work isn't always about skills. Sometimes, it's about what it reveals inside you.

Every morning, I walk to a river where the Peter Overington Bridge stands. Built strong enough for snowmobiles, it rests on three wooden supports filled with stone. With railings that run along both sides, I feel framed by the bridge - a reminder this passage isn't wide or easy, but built to carry weight.

Bridges symbolize an opportunity. It's not just crossing water. It's a step into something new, a leap toward potential I haven't met.

My new path is with the Haliburton Crew, a local construction team. Each step I take feels like crossing a river of doubt, challenge, and setbacks. Not every task feels like progress. Some are repetitive and don't require much skill. But that's not what matters. What matters is showing up, carrying the fire inside, and being willing to keep crossing even when the other side isn't clear.

That lesson became real when I was assigned the task of creating wooden trim pieces and the related metal drip caps. I had to learn a range of tools, which included an aluminum break, a large tool a little more than 10-feet long that takes two people to move. It enables the shape of the flashing on houses. I've made plenty of mistakes; asymmetrical wood pieces, warped metal, crooked trim, and fumbling with every step. I look foolish, but I keep at it.

There's a saying in the trades: 'time on tools' is how you get better. It's true. But the best lessons don't come from doing it right. They come from doing it wrong, again and again, until your hands remember before your mind does.

Mistakes aren't just part of learning. They're the foundation of growth. Persistence doesn't come from success. It comes from failing and pushing through. Real achievement isn't getting it right the first time. It's working through the awkwardness and doubt that come with looking foolish.

It's where you make mistakes that count too. Growth needs a place where you're safe to fail. Mr. Rogers said, "when you need help, look for the helpers." On a construction site, that couldn't be truer. The helpers are the ones who share their know-how without judgment, offer a hand or a nod of encouragement. They remind you perfection isn't expected, only effort.

This new path feels like crossing a bridge while still building it; one uncertain step at a time, not sure if it'll hold. Some days, I move forward with confidence. Others, I stumble and wonder if I belong here. But progress isn't a straight line. It twists, stalls, doubles back. Then, suddenly, you find yourself standing a little taller, holding a tool with a bit more ease.

Confidence does not come from getting it right. It comes from being willing to look foolish, to try again, and be surrounded by people who don't just tolerate mistakes but welcome them.

Like the bridge I cross each morning, this chapter isn't about reaching a perfect destination. It's about having the courage to span the unknown, with help, humility, and heart.

Columnist's note: This column was written after a brief hiatus from the trades to accompany my father to walk his niece down the aisle at her wedding (since her father had died decades before), to ride a motorcycle across Canada, and return to work as a dogsled guide at Winterdance Dogsled Tours.

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Gouging at the pumps

Dear editor,

On Saturday (Sept. 13), I drove from Haliburton to Orillia and was shocked by the wide variation in gas prices within such a short distance. In Haliburton, gas was 146.9. In Minden, it was 139.9, and just down the road in Ramara, it was 126.9.

That's a difference of 20 cents per litre within less than an hour's drive. How can there be such a huge discrepancy in such a small radius? Families, commuters, and businesses are feeling the strain of high fuel costs, and it's frustrating to see such inconsistency from town to town.

When we first heard a new gas station was coming to Haliburton, many of us were hopeful it would generate healthy competition and bring prices down.

It's time we had more transparency in how these prices are set. Consumers deserve to know why one community is paying so much more than another.

Jennifer Korpela
Haliburton

'Hatriotism' is more normative

Dear editor,

Thank you for the fine coverage given to 'getting public into politics' (Sept. 11), and congratulations to the thoughtful group in leadership in this healthy democracy project.

While the workaday realities of local governance might seem removed from the tensions and violences swirling globally, goodwill and civic discourse will begin in the local political scene, and so we have this opportunity to foster an alternative to the sometimes-volcanic methods of extremist rhetoric.

From the Charlie Kirk group of followers (and detractors) to the Christie Pits riots last week, a brand of 'hatriotism' (not a typo) is becoming more normative than I have ever thought possible.

I have to believe that we collectively stand for something much more intelligent and compassionate than this and I look forward to talking about it with my neighbours.

Doug Norris
Algonquin Highlands

New icing on an old cake

Dear editor,

I cannot believe our County council would consider spending $2.5 million on 11 and 12 Newcastle Street. And that is just part of the money to be spent on the County buildings regarding access and moving council chambers without letting the public come and have a look for themselves and, yes, even give an opinion.

The government-required access, I agree, has to be met or any help from provincial dollars would cease.

I am aware that a lift was installed in the existing council building for access upstairs as well as a new addition and renovations back in the late 1980s and early 1990s, but to spend this many dollars sure hits the low income and those on pensions and what is it going to gain in 10 or 25 years?

New icing on an old cake doesn't make the cake any better. Just some thoughts. Good for those who voted against.

Richard C. Schell
Minden

Feral cats

Dear editor,

I totally agree with Dagmar Boettcher's letter regarding the issue with feral cats in Dysart. Passing a bylaw to enforce cats remaining indoors, unfortunately, would not be enough of a solution to the problem.

As we all read on a daily basis on social media and pet alert on CanoeFM, cats escaping from their homes and getting lost is a regular occurrence. Reaching out to Haliburton Vet to try to track pets that are not spayed/neutered is a good start, but what about all the cats that don't go to a vet?

Pet owners have to take responsibility and ensure their cats get fixed, whether they are indoor or outdoor. Help with the fees would certainly be an incentive. As Dagmar mentioned, Minden Cat Angels' Don Kerr does an amazing job of helping these ferals. The OSPCA also offers discounted prices as well.

The other problem is those irresponsible owners who bought that cute little kitten for their kid for Christmas and two months later, decide they don't want the responsibility or cannot afford to keep it, and take that drive to the country to dump them off into the woods. And, trust me, it happens more often than you would think. These poor little guys don't want to be out there any more than you want them out there. They are scared, hungry, alone, maybe sick or hurt or worse, pregnant.

We need to get the word out strong, and if you see a stray/feral in your backyard, try to coax it with food and shelter and contact help to get them caged and safe.

A. Bress
Haliburton

Traffic safety in Eagle Lake

Dear editor,

My wife and I have just returned from a two-week trip that included a five-night stay in Summerside, P.E.I.

During our trip, our County council expressed its concern about traffic safety in Eagle Lake. I believe the phrase "we just missed one" was spoken during the County council discussion.

Staff are now working to implement the safety plan that councillors approved.

While in Summerside, we came across a four-way intersection that had modified stop signs. The stop signs had eight LED lights around the sign edges. We were on our way to a restaurant, and it was the car GPS that plotted the route for us. The LED lights on the signs appeared to be solar powered and we are uncertain how they were activated.

The stop signs are on the internet and can be viewed if you do a search for 125 Granville St., Summerside. You click on the result and then switch to 'street view.' We do not know if these modified LED signs are approved for use in Ontario. However, Book 5 of the Ontario Traffic manuals compendium states: "further purposes of the OTM are to provide a set of guidelines consistent with the intent of the Highway Traffic Act and to provide a basis for road authorities to generate or update their own guidelines and standards."

On Sunday, we had a gorgeous day. I spent 60 minutes observing the traffic navigating the stop signs in Eagle Lake. I believe I saw about 40 vehicles. Only four executed a proper stop at the stop signs.

If you read the literature that analyzes stop sign accidents, you will learn that human beings are the major cause of the accidents or incidents. The solutions all point out that driver behaviour has to change and that in most cases where change happens it is because of regulatory enforcement.

How long will it be before "we just missed one" becomes "we just lost a great citizen"?

Peter McLuskey
Eagle Lake

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

This little cutie thieved Scott Green's spoon right out of his cereal off their porch.

Highlander news

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED SHARED TOWER INC., TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER
3175 HADLINGTON ROAD, TORY HILL, ON K0L 2Y0

SUBJECT:

- Type: 90m guyed style tower
- Location: 3175 Hadlington Road, Tory Hill, ON (coordinates: 44.904026,-78.238923)
- Legal Description: LT 17 CON 1 MONMOUTH; LT 17-18 CON 2 MONMOUTH EXCEPT H178198, H206721; HIGHLANDS EAST
- Facility: The facility will comprise of an approximately 11,300 square metre fenced compound
- Site: The 90m structure will accommodate initial and future loading for all cellular service providers, and additional fixed wireless equipment as required.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISEDC) is the governing body for installations of this type of telecommunication installation and can be contacted at:
ISEDC – Eastern and Northern Ontario District Office
2 Queen Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 1Y3
Tel: 1-855-465-6307; Fax: 705-941-4607
Email: spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca

A Public Information Session will be held virtually on Thursday, October 16th from 6:30 - 7:30 PM.
How to Join: Virtual Google Meeting
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/hbk-fnsp-jmx
Or dial: (CA) +1 226-316-6225 PIN: 124 920 173#

ANY PERSON may make a written submission to the individuals listed below no later than 5pm (ET) on **Friday October 31, 2025**. Please reference our file number, **STC0796**, in your correspondence.

AVIS PUBLIC

PYLÔNE DE TÉLÉCOMMUNICATION PROPOSÉE DE SHARED TOWER INC.
3175, RUE HADLINGTON, TORY HILL, ON K0L 2Y0

OBJET:

- Type : Pylône haubané de 90 mètres
- Emplacement: 3175, rue Hadlington, Tory Hill, ON (coordonnées: 44.904026, -78.238923)
- Description légale: LT 17 CON 1 MONMOUTH; LT 17-18 CON 2 MONMOUTH EXCEPT H178198, H206721; HIGHLANDS EAST
- Établissement : L'installation comprendra un complexe clôturé d'environ 11 300 mètres carrés.
- Site : La structure de 90 mètres permettra de prendre en charge les charges initiales et futures de tous les fournisseurs de services cellulaires, ainsi que l'équipement sans fil fixe supplémentaire selon les besoins.

Innovation, science et développement économique Canada (ISEDC) est l'organisme directeur pour les installations de ce type et peut être contacté à l'adresse suivante :
Bureau de l'ISED : Bureau de district de l'Est et du Nord de l'Ontario
2, rue Queen Est
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 1Y3
Tél. : 1-855-465-6307; Fax : 705-941-4607
Courriel : spectrumenod-spectredeno@ised-isde.gc.ca

Une séance d'information publique aura lieu le jeudi 16e octobre 2025 de 18h30 à 19h30.
Comment participer : Réunion virtuelle sur Google Meet
Lien pour l'appel vidéo : https://meet.google.com/hbk-fnsp-jmx
Ou composez le : (CA) +1 226-316-6225, NIP : 124 920 173#

TOUTE PERSONNE peut soumettre des commentaires écrits à la personne listée ci-dessous au plus tard à 17h (HE) **le 31e octobre 2025**. Veuillez mentionner notre numéro de dossier, **STC0796**, dans votre correspondance.

Des informations complémentaires peuvent également être obtenues auprès du contact suivant/ Further information may also be obtained by contacting:

Cheyenne Zierler
Shared Tower Inc.
1300 Cornwall Rd. Unit 101
Oakville ON, L6J 7W5
czierler@sharedtower.ca

SITE LOCATION MAP/
CARTE DE L'EMPLACEMENT DU SITE

MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Scotch Line construction

Total Site Services Inc. has been awarded the contract to construct the Scotch Line Transfer Station.

Minden Hills manager of waste facilities, Chelsea Cosh, told council Sept. 11 the price tag is $1,698,117 plus HST.

She said tenders closed Aug. 15 with four submissions. She said Total Site was the lowest bidder, over Ritestart Limited, J.J. McGuire General Contractors Inc., and Francis Thomas Contracting.

On March 5, 2024 council approved the design concept and put $1.4 million in the capital budget for the project. On Oct. 10, 2024, they approved another $710,000, for a total of $2.11 million. Earlier this year, they paid for contract administration and site inspection services, of $226,748 plus HST.

Coun. Bob Sisson asked if there was any way to trim the cost. Cosh said the RFP had to be consistent for fairness, but now that a firm has been selected, they can have discussions.

The township plans to borrow money for the project.

Curling club and cultural centre roofs

Council gave staff the green light for it, and engineering consultants, to negotiate roofing services for the urgent replacement of the cultural centre and curling club roofs.

CAO Cynthia Fletcher said staff will report back to council on the results of the negotiation and funding options prior to awarding the work.

In so doing, they waived the requirement for a formal tender process under their policy.

Fletcher said, "the township's engineering consultant has prepared design specifications for the replacement of roofing systems for the curling club and cultural centre facilities. Given the urgent nature of these replacement projects, council indicated a need to expedite the work to protect the township assets and the operations within the facilities."

Minden Hills CAO Cynthia Fletcher. *File.*

Coun. Tammy McKelvey asked that they talk to the curling club first. Fletcher said they would talk to both the curling club and cultural centre representatives.

Development application process review

Council also awarded the contract for a review of its development applications process.

J.L. Richards & Associates Limited is getting the job for $60,583.40 plus HST.

Fletcher said the tender closed Aug. 22 with five submissions.

They were not the lowest bidder, but the second highest. However, the evaluation committee ranked them first, and they were within budget, Fletcher said. "The firm has strong development application review experience," she added. The money will come from the administration reserve.

Election provider

The townships got together to choose the firm to run its municipal and school board election services in 2026 – with the results rolling out at the four councils.

Clerk Vicki Bull said the provision of telephone, and internet services will go to Voatz Canada Ltd.

In Minden Hills, they will also have traditional paper ballot voting.

(Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

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Highlander arts

Kathy Haycock is one of the daughters to be featured in the 'Like Father, Like Daughter' exhibit opening at Agnes Jamieson Gallery Sept. 18. *Photo submitted.*

Haycock family legacy on show at Minden gallery

By Mike Baker

Debuting this week, the new 'Like Father, Like Daughter' exhibit at Minden's Agnes Jamieson Gallery is heavily influenced by a man who, for years, studiously learned alongside one of Canada's famous 'Group of Seven'.

The family showcase will feature about 70 pieces from landscape artist Maurice Hall Haycock, his daughters Kathy Haycock and Karole Haycock-Pittman, and granddaughter Erika Pittman. It opened Sept. 18 and runs until Nov. 15.

Several of the paintings on show in the "colourful" exhibit bear a striking resemblance to the style made famous by A.Y. Jackson – one of Canada's most prominent painters and a founding member of the group that has inspired artists for generations.

Kathy Haycock, in a recent interview with *The Highlander*, said her dad met Jackson in the late 1920s on an expedition to Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic. A surveyor, the Haycock patriarch struck up a close friendship with Jackson and, after being moved by some of the artist's works, decided he'd try his hand at painting too.

After graduating from Princeton University with a degree in mineralogy, Haycock started working in Ottawa in 1931. Wowed by the natural landscapes surrounding him, he jumped into his new pastime, painting whenever and wherever he could.

He kept in touch with Jackson and, after a several years of honing his craft, was invited to paint alongside him in the 1940s. Kathy said her dad followed in Jackson's footsteps, trading in his easel for a wooden sketchbox that he'd carry around with him everywhere he went.

Plein air painting, done on location usually in the wilderness, was Haycock's chosen method – one that his descendants still use today. He is famous for being the first artist to paint in-person at the North Pole.

Kathy said she didn't really recognize or appreciate her father's talents as a child but waded into the arts in her adult years through weaving. It wasn't until 1998, a decade after her father passed, that she picked up a paintbrush for the first time.

"My sister was visiting from Nova Scotia, which is where both our parents are from, and she presented me with my dad's old paintbox and materials. She sat me down, showed me what to do and, immediately, I was hooked," Kathy said. "After that, I just wanted to paint again and again and again."

Her style mimics that of her father – bright colours showcasing the beauty and serenity of nature undisturbed. There are scenes depicted from nearby Algonquin Park and rural paradises from all corners of the country. Many of the younger Haycocks' paintings are of locations sought out by their father decades earlier.

"I tried to pick a nice selection that covered my dad's whole career and early paintings from myself, Karole and Erika, right up to present day – it shows a progression in style… the gist of the exhibition is to cover 100 years of travelling and exploring in the wilderness," Kathy said.

She will be in attendance for the show's opening reception Sept. 20 from 1 to 3 p.m.

"I'm very excited – this show is going to be kind of like our family legacy," Kathy said.

Highlander events

ADVERTORIAL

Trapped on society's mowercoaster ride

"I wondered if we owned the lawn or the lawn owned us."

These are the words of Ken Ilgunas in *The New York Times*, writing about growing up in a neighbourhood surrounded by an ocean of turf.

Maybe these sentiments ring a bell. If you're coming up to the cottage and spending a couple of hours each weekend mowing the lawn, then you might wonder whose relaxation is it, anyway?

By Simon Payn

An invisible cage

The lawn and its associated tidy landscaping of shrubs and mulch have a grip on the Canadian psyche.

Maybe it's because we're so nice; we don't want to offend, so we fit in. We feel it's better to belong to the pack than be cast out, so we carry on in this invisible cage.

Sometimes the cage becomes codified, as those of us in a condominium or a homeowners' association regulated development might attest.

While we think we're happy fitting in, the sprinkler fitters, the mower makers, the fertilizer and herbicide vendors... they're all very happy indeed. And so the runaway mowercoaster careens on.

Choosing life

To the tidy-minded, nature appears inherently messy. But the fact is, an ecologically functioning landscape is incompatible with shaved lawns and clipped monocultures.

If a tidy garden is a dead garden, we have to decide if we're going to choose life.

That's not to say nature's apparent disorder is a sign of chaos. As ecological landscaping pioneer Larry Weaner says, nature is highly ordered and anything but random. We just don't see it unless we know what to look for.

Mess and control

A lot of this comes down to control. We want to be in control in a chaotic world, so we control nature. We like to have flowers and leaves, but only the type of greenery that knows who's boss.

Which is why we and our planet are in a mess and why we can be happy and thrive if we dance with nature instead of fighting it. True control is in coexistence, in knowing how we fit in with the rest of the world.

Fitting in

I see this tension sometimes when I visit potential clients. I sense a nervousness coupled with a desire. They want to break the rules but they're not sure if they should.

That's why I put together a guide on working with condominiums, homeowners' associations - and neighbours. You can read it on my website (groundedgardens.ca).

In it, I say native plant gardening in these situations isn't about letting your landscape go wild. Instead, it's about understanding ecological processes and working with them in a structured way. It's about starting small, leaving some lawn for ball games if you wish, making well-defined borders, choosing plants that don't grow too tall or take over, and having a proper management routine.

It's about pushing the boundaries of acceptability so carefully that nobody notices until one day a neighbour stops by your driveway and admires the butterflies instead of tutting at the "weeds."

And above all, it's about truly fitting in. Not with the manufactured desires of society but with the real desires of the rest of the world.

If any of this resonates, check out my ecological landscape maintenance service. I do your maintenance (yes, even your lawn) while we gradually introduce native plants. Now is the time for me to come look ready for spring. Find out more at groundedgardens.ca.

Natural gardens and shorelines designed installed and maintained

Property care that creates habitat for wildlife

For more info and a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca

grounded
GARDENING FOR LIFE

We will remember them

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 in Haliburton held its annual Veterans Decoration Day Sept. 15 at St. Anthony's Roman Catholic cemetery and Evergreen cemetery. Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students took part in the commemoration, putting white crosses at the graves of veterans. Organizer Linda Heeps said there are 10-14 unidentified graves in the cemeteries. She said the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group's Adele Espina is seeking grant funding for markers for the graves. (*Lisa Gervais*).

Top: Bugler, Andy Salvatori, plays *The Last Post*. Bottom: Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student, Alexis Dacey, lays a cross as Claudia Nienajadlo and Alivia Brown look on. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

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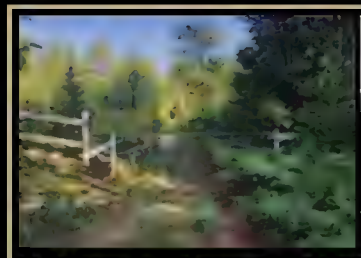
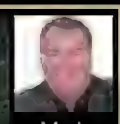

Mark Dennys* (705) 457-0473

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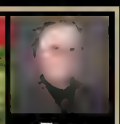

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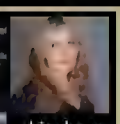

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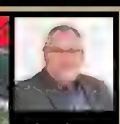

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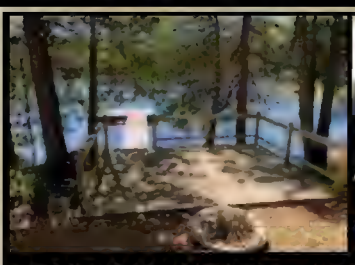
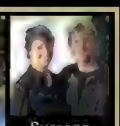

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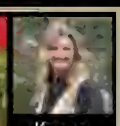

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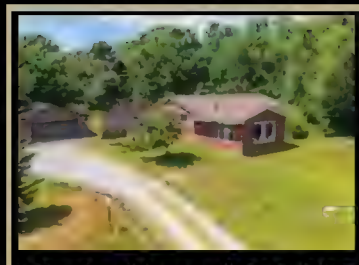
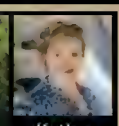

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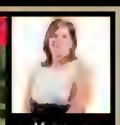

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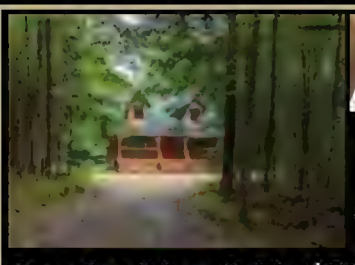

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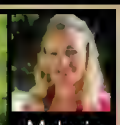

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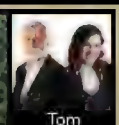

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Highlander events

Notice of Public Meeting – 9184384 Canada Inc. (Granite Shores)

Please be advised that the Municipality of Highlands East has received complete applications to amend the Municipality's Official Plan and Comprehensive Zoning By-law.

The site-specific amendments apply to vacant lands located north of Highway 118 and east of Centre Lake as illustrated on the Key Map.

Purpose and Effect:

Requested Amendment to Highlands East Official Plan:

The applicant's requested amendment to the Official Plan would create a site-specific special policy area to permit a vacant lot plan of condominium/subdivision with thirty-three recreational residential lots within the Municipality's *Shoreline* Official Plan designation without direct frontage on or ownership of the shoreline of Centre Lake.

Requested Amendment to the Comprehensive Zoning By-law:

The proposed amendment would create land use regulations for thirty-three seasonal residential lots serviced by private condominium road, a highway commercial block fronting on Highway 118, three open space common element blocks and one open space common element block with proposed public hiking trails.

Take Notice that the Municipality of Highlands East will be holding a Public Meeting as required under the Planning Act. The Public Meeting is an opportunity for Council to hear and consider comments related to the proposed amendments. Any member of the public may speak in favour, or opposition to, the proposed amendments during the Public Meeting.

Public Meeting (OPA-01-2025 / RZ-15-2025)

Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Time: 9:30 am

Location: This will be held as a virtual meeting via Zoom

Members of the public who wish to watch the meeting can do so by joining the live-stream link, available on the Municipality's website on the day of the meeting: https://www.highlandseast.ca.

Members of the public who wish to provide comments at the public meeting or provide written comments to be considered by Council should e-mail **planning@highlandseast.ca** by 4:00 pm on October 6, 2025.

Additional Information and materials regarding the proposed amendments are available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 2249 Loop Road in Wilberforce by appointment or by visiting https://www.highlandseast.ca.

For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the Municipality at **planning@highlandseast.ca**.

Dated this 10th day of September, 2025.
Kimberley Roberts, Junior Planner

Talking high-profile deaths

Blue Heron Books and The Arts Council – Haliburton Highlands presented Books & Bites: Cottage Mysteries with Kate Hilton and Elizabeth Renzetti at the Dominion Hotel in Minden Sept. 14. The authors are working on book three of their Quill and Packet cozy mystery series. The two have already co-authored *Widows and Orphans* and *Bury the Lead*, and are in the midst of *Put it to Bed*. The main character is small-town journalist Cat Conway – a middle-aged woman who is divorced, struggling with her kid, and own mother, and in the aftermath of a career that had a lot of promise but she's not where she wants to be now. She investigates high-profile deaths. The event was an Arts Council literary fundraiser. *(Lisa Gervais)*

Top: Chris Lynd checks out the bites at the Dominion Hotel during the event. Bottom: Emily Stonehouse interviews Kate Hilton and Elizabeth Renzetti. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

BANCROFT MINDEN FOREST – INDEPENDENT FOREST AUDIT

KBM Resources Group of Thunder Bay, Ontario has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to conduct an Independent Forest Audit, consistent with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act, on the management of the Bancroft Minden Forest. The purpose of this audit is to assess forest management activities within the Bancroft Minden Forest during the eight-year audit period from **April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2025,** Specifically:

- Compliance with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act and associated Forest Management Planning Process;
- A comparison of planned versus actual forest management activities;
- The effectiveness of forest management in meeting objectives set out in the forest management plan;
- The effectiveness of previous audit action plans;
- Compliance with the terms and conditions of the Sustainable Forest Licence.

You are invited to comment on forest operations on the **Bancroft Minden Forest**. Please visit **www.kbm.ca** to complete a public audit survey or mail comments directly to the contact listed below.

Please note: Personal information is collected under the authority of Regulation 319/20 (Independent Forest Audits) made under the Crown Forest Sustainability Act. It will be used by the Bancroft-Minden Forest, KBM Audit Team, the Bancroft-Minden Forest Local Citizens' Committee, the Forestry Futures Trust Committee and the Ministry of Natural Resources for the purposes of developing an understanding of forest management concerns and issues for the delivery of the Independent Forest Audit. Please contact Ernie Demuth, MNR Senior Program Advisor, ernie.demuth@ontario.ca for more information about the collection and use of this personal information.

For more information, please contact: Stéphane Audet, Lead Auditor, KBM Resources Group - saudet@kbm.ca | 349 Mooney Ave, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 5L5 (807) 345-5445 x 229

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Yuki Renel inside Rising Thymes. *Photo by Susan Tromanhauser.*

Doubling up on goodness at Rising Thymes

By Susan Tromanhauser

It all started with being homesick for a vegetable.

Unable to find vegetables specific to her Japanese upbringing, Yuki Renel grew her own. The abundant garden thrived into a small business. Her best customer recognized Renel's interest in healthy foods, and her work ethic, and offered her a job at her health food store, soon followed by an opportunity to buy the business. Rising Thymes in Minden was created.

But the story doesn't end there. After gaining confidence in her business skills, and recognizing the needs of the community, Renel expanded her business and Rising Thymes has opened its second location in Haliburton.

Previously, many customers in Haliburton and in the eastern parts of the County traveled to Lindsay or Peterborough to meet their diet or lifestyle needs. Rising Thymes is able to do so in Haliburton at their County Road 21 location. The second outlet allows Renel to take advantage of bulk buying, keeping costs down and enabling Rising Thymes to compete with online sales. Renel's customers want fresh, healthy food, preferring Canadian products and wanting to spend their money locally.

To ensure freshness, many products at Rising Thymes have a very short shelf life. This was a conundrum for Renel because many of those same products have a minimum order size - too large for one store alone. By splitting the order between the Minden and Haliburton stores, Renel can make available fresh products at a reasonable price. Another strategy Renel uses to keep prices low is taking larger bulk items and repackaging them into customers' preferred sizes.

Renel explains "everybody's health needs are different" and she offers products to meet individual wants and needs. Rising Thymes in both locations provides products which are gluten-free, sugar-free or have sugar substitutes, as well as a variety of supplements. Customers in search of specific ingredients to make their own yogurt or sourdough bread, or even soaps, will find what they need. Rising Thymes provides refrigerated displays to ensure the freshest, healthiest ingredients.

Patrons are not just concerned with their own health, but also the health of the environment, cautious about what goes into lakes and septic systems. Renel responded to this concern with eco-friendly detergents and soaps, sold in refillable bottles. If a customer seeks something new to Rising Thymes, Renel becomes a detective, researching the unknown item to learn about its health benefits and locating a source.

Not only can patrons get products they are looking for, but they can also get free advice. Many customers look to Renel for guidance to improve their own gardens. The Minden location offers gardening workshops in the spring. Renel's Japanese roots also come in handy for tips in Asian cooking.

The big attraction at Rising Thymes is still the fresh vegetables grown in Renel's own garden. However, gardening is not just another task on the businesswoman's long to-do list. Renel views gardening as her ideal way to de-stress and relax when away from her growing Rising Thymes.

Highlander events

Hitting the greens for the green

Minden Rotary presented its fifth annual charity golf tournament – in support of Brooksong Retreat and Cancer Support Centre - Sept. 14. The day featured nine holes of golf, silent auction, 50/50, prizes and a buffet dinner at Mulligans. (*Lisa Gervais*)

Above: Paul Cormier sets his eyes on the flag. *Photo by Sally Huang.*

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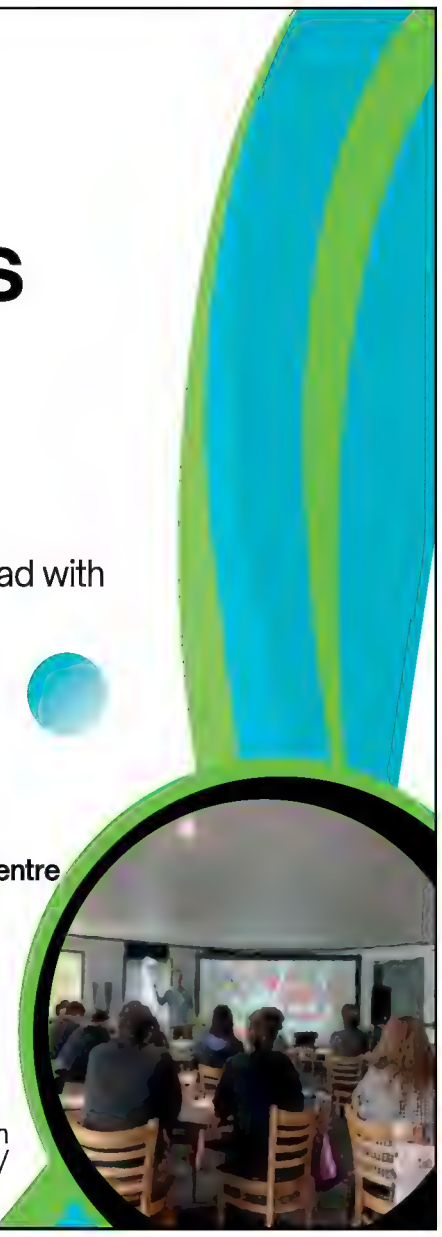

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https://myhaliburtonhighlands.com/doing-business/business-summit/

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GARDENS OF HALIBURTON

Penalty trouble at Showcase

By Mike Baker

The Haliburton County Huskies put together another solid win on home ice Sept. 13, defeating the North York Rangers 5-2, before a tough showing at the annual Jr. A Governor's Showcase saw the young team drop back-to-back games.

New head coach Jordan Bailey said he was encouraged by the team's start to the season, which also included a tight 4-3 win over the Cobourg Cougars on opening day Sept. 6, but was disappointed by the poor showing in the league-wide tournament in Niagara Falls.

The Huskies were soundly beaten 4-0 by the Leamington Flyers Sept. 15, the first day of the Showcase, and followed up with a 5-2 losing effort against the Milton Menace Sept. 16.

That left the team languishing in eighth place in the East Conference, with four points from the opening four games. Bailey felt it was too early to make any real determinations on how his side stacks up against the rest of the league, with the season still in its infancy.

"It's hard to say how [we compare], it's only been four games for us, the most any team has played is five or six and, looking throughout the league, there's a lot of very young teams right now," Bailey said, noting the Huskies still have seven max-age roster spots open. The team will likely be a major player when Ontario Hockey League clubs start making roster cuts over the next few weeks.

Huskies 5-2 North York

The 470 fans in attendance at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena Saturday were treated to an offensive clinic, as the Huskies pummelled the Rangers through three periods – outshooting the visitors 61 to 23.

After a frustrating opening frame, where North York netminder Nicolas Morvan made 20 saves, the Huskies burst into action in the second.

Daniel Vasic got things started with a powerplay marker at 7:21, assisted by Ivan Mentiukov and Jacob Smith, before goals from Chase Del Colombo, Christian Giancola and Carter Petrie made sure of the result. Harrison O'Connor added some gloss to the scoreline in the third, adding another on the man advantage late on, to send the fans home happy. Defenseman Ronen MacFarlane was a standout, recording three assists.

"I thought we played very well – we stuck to our game plan and executed it well, throwing a lot of pucks on net, our rotations in the offensive zone were very good, very physical. It was a strong performance," Bailey said.

Discipline costs team

Heading into the Governor's Showcase, Bailey said the message to his young squad was to take advantage of the opportunity to play in front of a packed arena at the 2,170-capacity Gale Centre and not get overwhelmed or deviate from team plans and systems.

Bailey lamented issues with discipline, which he believes was the main contributor to Monday's 4-0 defeat against Leamington. The Huskies took eight penalties in the game – including three in the opening period and a checking from behind major in the third – with the head coach feeling that lack of control cost them.

Easton Poe gets physical with a visiting Ranger.
Photo by Sally Hwang.

"Penalties kind of killed us there – when you're spending almost a full period in the box, it's hard to establish any kind of rhythm. Guys are sitting for long periods of time and when they did get back out there, there was no flow to the game for us," Bailey said. "Coming out of that, I told them that it's going to be very hard for us to win hockey games taking that many penalties."

The blue and white gave up one powerplay goal in the opening period and another midway through the third, with the Flyers tallying two more goals late-on.

It was more of the same against Milton on Tuesday. There wasn't much five-on-five action in an opening period that treated fans to four goals – three of them on the powerplay – as the two sides evened each other out.

At 2-2 heading into the second, Bailey felt his team had a good shot at a bounce-back win, but more penalty trouble – three minors in the second and two in the third, hurt them again. The Menace tallied off three straight powerplay goals in the second to make sure of the win.

"We'll be talking about this with our players, but we've got to stay out of the box. Constantly playing a man down against top-tier teams like Milton is never going to go well for you," Bailey said.

The Huskies are back in action Sept. 19 for a road game against reigning league champions the Trenton Golden Hawks. They follow-up with a home tilt against the St. Michael's Buzzers in Minden Sept. 20. Puck drop is 4 p.m.

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What's on

Gina Stanley (left) and Jan Snable hug an old-growth white pine they spotted while on a hike on the trails at the Frost Centre at a past Hike Haliburton. *File photo by Ian Darragh.*

Enhanced hike fest

By Lisa Gervais

Thanks to a FedDev grant, organizers of this year's Hike Haliburton say they are offering an "enhanced" festival for 2025.

Tourism manager Angelica Ingram said, "we're excited because we have a lot of hikes this year, a lot of different kinds of hikes than we've had in previous years, and a lot of musical themes tied in to the festival."

She added they have two Indigenous events they're enthusiastic about, that are "a new offering for Hike Haliburton."

On Friday, Sept. 19, from 7-9 p.m. at Haliburton Forest, Jared Bigcanoe is hosting a campfire. Bigcanoe is a Coldwater Ojibwe artist, entrepreneur, and healer. He is also a skilled rapper and poet. He will share Indigenous stories, songs, drumming, and demonstrations.

On Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Bigcanoe will join the Forest's Tegan Legge on the Chessel's Pond Trail to discover forest-sacred medicines and how they are used for healing.

Ingram said the two offerings are a means of "seeing the Highlands and the festival through an Indigenous lens."

The tourism manager added they have another new hike featuring the Haliburton County Folk Society at Abbey Gardens. On Friday, Sept. 19, from 3-5 p.m. Folk on Foot hikers will encounter four local singer/songwriters who sing in, and for, nature.

Ingram said the FedDev funding also allowed them to change their registration system and update their website. She said in the past, people would reserve spots for hikes and not show up, which was frustrating for hikers and hike leaders.

The new system makes registrants more accountable for attendance. She added there are still spaces for many hikes.

"We're just really excited. The weather forecast looks great. I think it's going to be a good year. Lots of family-friendly ones, challenging ones, lots at the Frost Centre, it's neat going back there."

Established in 2003, the Hike Haliburton Festival is Canada's largest hiking festival.

Colourfest

Colourfest coincides with Hike Haliburton this year, being held Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Head Lake Park.

Andrea Mueller, manager of programs and events for Dysart et al, said new this year is The Haliburton Curling Club bringing outdoor curling to the park.

"It's pretty cool; it's a big curling sheet with inflatable edges they'll put on the lawn. It simulates curling. Someone can be at one end and take a rock and actually try to get it in the house at the other end.

"It's great because it gives people a chance to try an activity that may be of interest to them but also to help promote registrations," Mueller said.

She said it is a way for the curling club to get more involved in the community as well.

They've also invited The Critters of Wooley Wonderland Farm.

"They're bringing a variety of animals; most of them are going to be miniature versions or babies of farm-type animals. It's kind of exciting, and people can go in and pet them or sit with them. And we've purposefully asked for the grass to be left longer in the one area so they can munch away and take care of the grass for us."

What's on

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Office open 9 a.m. to noon, clubroom closed.
Tuesdays: Games and cards night starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Fun darts at 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, Remembrance Hall. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. with a 7 p.m. start time, Remembrance Hall. There will be a $1,000 jackpot Aug. 6, Sept. 3, and Oct. 1. Snack bar available from 5:30 p.m. – French fries and hot dogs available while supplies last.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month.
Fridays: meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. 50/50 draw at 5 p.m., tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom. Beginning July 4, board games for seniors from 10 a.m. to noon.
Saturdays: Open only for special events
Clubroom hours: Monday 3-9 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed.

Upcoming events: Drum circle Oct. 5, Nov. 16, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, with a 1 p.m. start time.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden

Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Thursday with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.
Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Weekly activities:
Karaoke: call for dates
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.
Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce

Monday: open 7 to 10 p.m.
Sept. 22, 29 Darts $5/player 7 p.m.
Tuesday: closed, special events only
Sept. 23 Veterans' Appreciation Dinner. Tickets are $20 each. Veterans and their Spouse are free. Cocktails Start at 4:30 p.m. Dinner to follow.
Wednesday: open 2 to 10 p.m.
Sept. 24 Darts $4/player 2 p.m.; Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; cribbage league 6:30 p.m. – sign up at the Legion
Thursday: open 2 to 10 p.m.
Sept. 18, 25 Horseshoes $5/player 7 p.m.
Sept. 25 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
Friday: open 2 to 11 p.m.
Sept. 19 Fish and Chips, one piece/$15, two pieces/$20. From 5 to 8 p.m.
Sept. 26 Community Care 55+ Lunch $17, at noon.
Sept. 26 Wings and Jam Session $15/pound from 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday: open 2 to 9 p.m.
Sept. 20, 27 Board Games 2 p.m.
Sept. 20, 27 Meat Draw 3 p.m.
Sept. 20 Open Mic 2 to 6 p.m.
Sept. 27 Corn Roast at 3 p.m. $1 each
Sept. 27 Nacho Average Trivia Night 7 p.m.

EVENTS

Sept. 18-21, Corduroy Enduro. This gruelling two-day off-road motorcycle event attracts hundreds of riders every fall. This year's course features extreme sections, river crossings, MX tests and an ISDE-style bike impound. There are also non-competitive trail rides, demo rides, parts, gear and more available. Visit corduroyenduro.ca for more information.

Sept. 18, Youth Unlimited is hosting a golf tournament at the Haliburton County Golf Club. Contact the Youngs at haliburton@kawyu.ca to inquire about registering ($75 per golfer, nine holes, cart and lunch. Best ball, shotgun start) or making a donation. You can also visit their website at www.yfc.ca/haliburton-highlands. All donations go towards funding after-school programs for the upcoming school year.

Sept. 18, 7 p.m. Join the Canadian Federation of University Women of Haliburton Highlands at Haliburton's Fleming College campus to connect, explore interests like cooking, reading, hiking and more. You don't need a degree to join – only a desire to support education and women's rights. For more details, visit www.cfuwhh.ca.

Sept. 20, 7 p.m. Loonie auction at the Coboconk Legion. Open to all. Money raised will support the purchase of a back-up generator. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Hot dogs available. Call 705-454-8127 for more information.

Sept. 23-27, Drop by any Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) branch for a meaningful craft activity in recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Participate in the "Hearts & Hands" craft station, where participants can create an orange heart and trace your handprint to add to a community display wall as a symbol of commitment to reconciliation and learning.

Sept. 25, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. at the Minden Hills cultural centre, documentary *Angry Inuk* (2016). Directed by Alethea Arnaquq-Baril, this powerful documentary highlights the Inuit's fight to protect their hunting rights and traditions against the backlash from anti-seal hunting campaigns. The film gives a firsthand look at the struggles of Indigenous communities and their efforts to reclaim their cultural practices.

Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Haliburton Curling Club invites adults 18 and over to a 'try curling' event at the club, located at 730 Mountain St. in Haliburton. Come and experience one of Canada's favourite winter games. No experience necessary. Instruction will be provided. Visit www.haliburtoncurlingclub.com for more information.

Sept. 27, 11 a.m. to noon Join author Susan Garrod-Schuster for an engaging talk about her book, Biography of a Woman – A Journey Through the Self. This powerful true story follows Chau, a Vietnamese woman who fled her homeland as a refugee and rebuilt her life in Canada. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Held at the Dysart library in Haliburton Village. Registration preferred. Call 705-457-2241 or email programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca to register.

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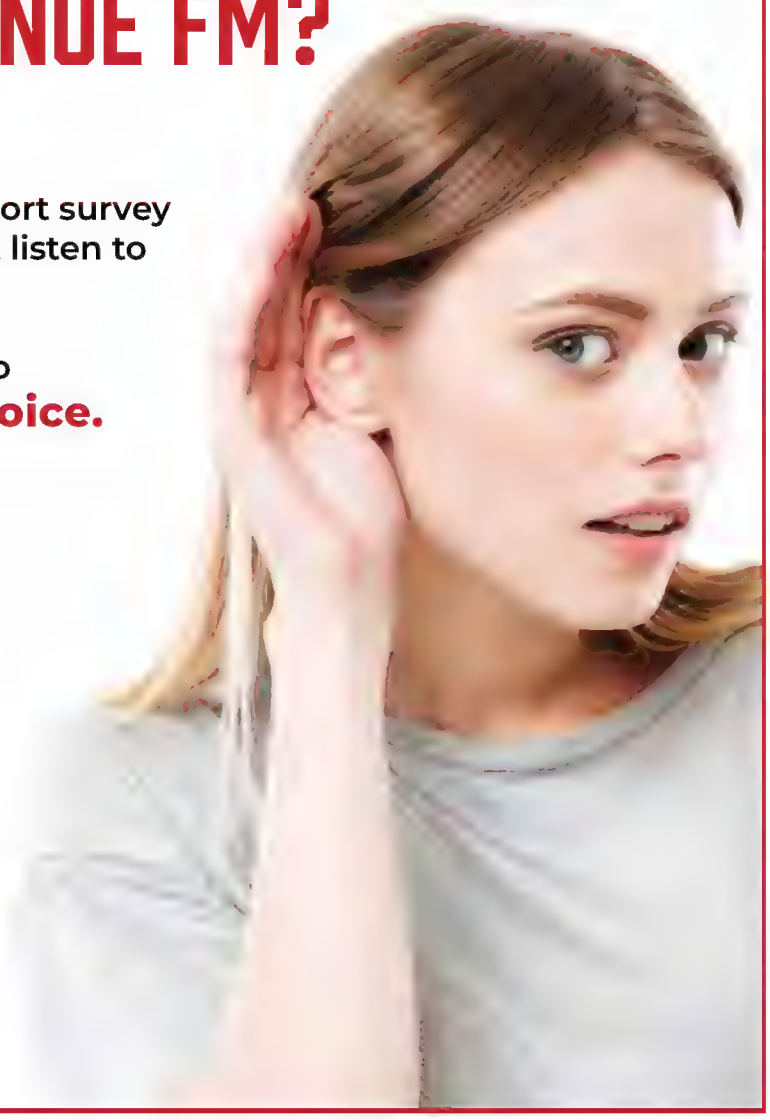


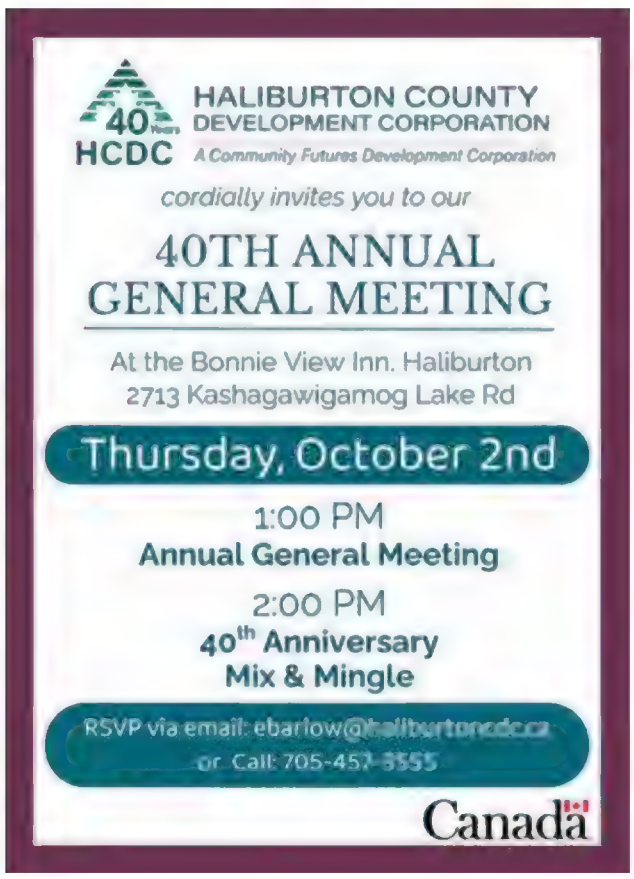
Thank you for supporting Canoe FM - your community radio station.
Your voice helps shape the future of community radio in Haliburton County.

What's on

Concert for the kids

Point in Time presented an evening with Kael Reid Sept. 13, with proceeds from the concert at The Music Room at Castle Antiques and Cafe going towards the expansion of the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub. Executive director Marg Cox said it was "one step in many steps to come towards raising money for a youth hub expansion." *(Lisa Gervais)*

Top: Kael Reid performing in the music room at Castle. Bottom: Pam Sayne, Liz Jesseman, Dagmar Boettcher, Deb Reid, Rita Moore, and Pauline Levesque. *Photos by Sally Huang.*



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Highlander classifieds

HELP WANTED

Employment Opportunity
Municipality of Dysart et al

Municipal and School Board
Elections Coordinator/Administrative Clerk
(14-Month Contract, Full Time)

Due to an upcoming maternity leave, the Municipality of Dysart et al is looking for a diligent and versatile professional to fill the role of Municipal and School Board Elections Coordinator/ Administrative Clerk. This multifaceted position is crucial to the smooth operation of our municipal and school board elections and involves key administrative responsibilities.

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer/Interim Clerk, the Municipal and School Board Elections Coordinator/Administrative Clerk will plan, organize, and oversee all aspects of municipal and school board election in Dysart et al, maintain a robust records management system, handle Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, manage insurance claims, oversee municipal approvals for liquor licenses and provide general administrative support to the CAO/ Interim Clerk.

We are seeking a candidate with expertise in municipal governance and legislation with excellent organizational, communication, and problem-solving skills. Candidates must be able to manage multiple tasks efficiently, prioritize effectively, and adapt in a fast-paced environment. They must possess a high degree of integrity and commitment to maintaining confidentiality and protecting privacy. Qualifications should include a postsecondary degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, Political Science, or a related field.

This role is integral to enhancing operational efficiency and public trust through transparency and compliance. If you're ready to make a meaningful impact on our community and possess the qualifications we seek, we invite you to apply.

The detailed job description is available on our website at www.dysartetal.ca/careers.

Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter to:

Sonja Marx, HR Manager at hr@dysartetal.ca

No later than 12:00 pm (noon) September 30, 2025.

*** We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes. ***

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ESTATE SALE

ESTATE SALE – 1121 Halls Lake Rd, Algonquin Highlands, Saturday Sept 20th 9 a.m. Dishes to Snowmobile Trailer

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40 Hours per week, Monday – Friday

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A copy of the detailed job posting, and description are available upon request or on the Highlands East website at www.highlandseast.ca

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications **clearly marked "Application – Temporary, General Equipment Operator"** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Monday, September 22nd, 2025, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0
E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. Questions about this collection should be directed to Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer.

HELP WANTED

Employment Opportunity
Municipality of Dysart et al

Public Works Equipment Operator
(permanent, full-time)

Reporting to the Operation Manager the successful applicant will have sound knowledge and methods, tools, and equipment required for the general maintenance of the municipal road system including bridges, culverts, drainage, and other roads / property. Primary duties include, but not limited to operations of a sidewalk plow, dump truck (with sander/snowplow), backhoe, loader and grader.

Self-motivated applicants must be able to work outdoors in all weather with minimal supervision. A valid Ontario 'A' or 'D' licence (manual) with 'Z' endorsement is required along with an acceptable abstract. Pursuant to CUPE Local #2142 the rate of pay is $28.88 per hour based on a 40-hour work week. Pension and Benefits after a 6-month probationary period.

Upon final selection, the applicant will be required to provide, at their own expense, a Criminal Record and Judicial Matters check from the Ontario Provincial Police or appropriate police force.

The detailed job description is available on our website www.dysartetal.ca/careers
Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter to:

Sonja Marx, HR Manager
hr@dysartetal.ca
No Later Than 12:00 pm Friday September 19th, 2025.

*** We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes. ***

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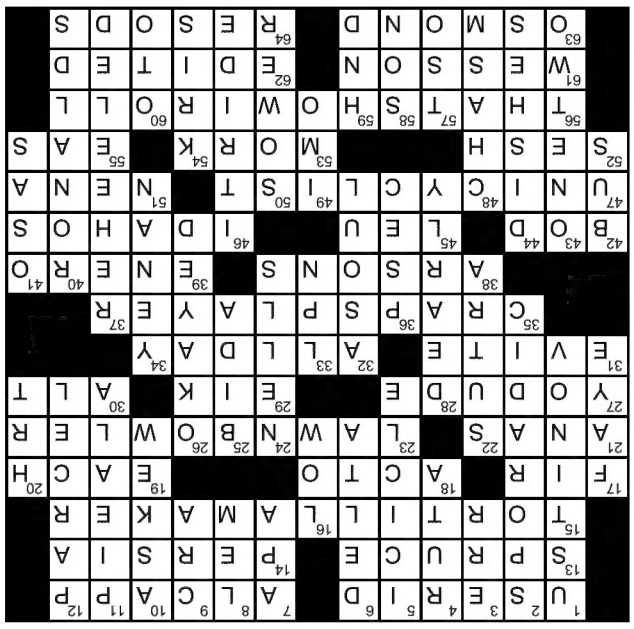
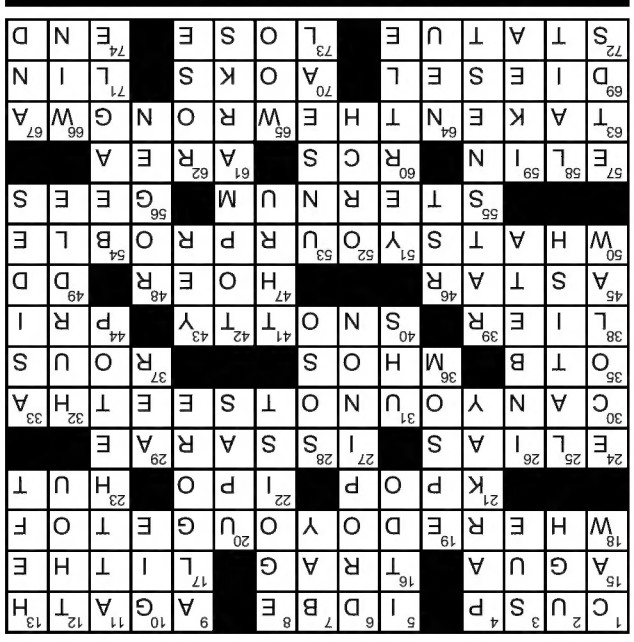
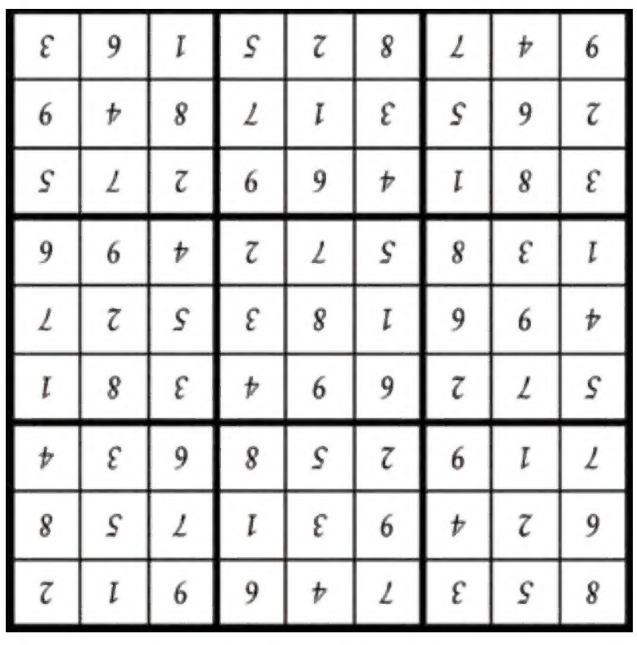


THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS





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AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.

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Highlander puzzles

Uncivil Service

by Barbara Olson
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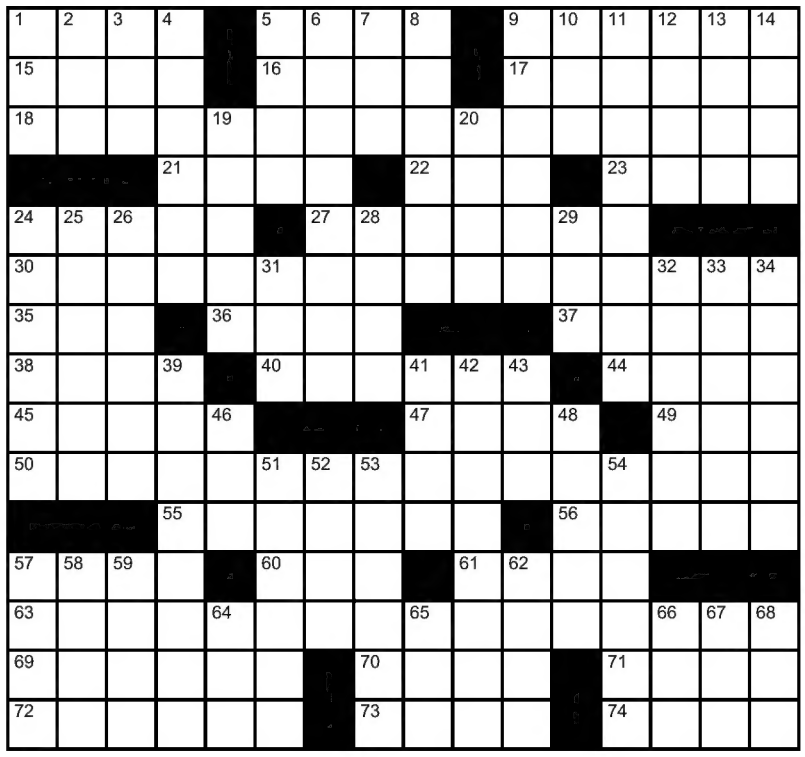

Across

1 Zodiacal edge
5 "___ delighted!"
9 Dame Christie
15 Water under el puente
16 Shakespearian genre: Abbr.
17 More suited for ballet
18 Bus driver's question to a rider, maybe
21 Seoul music?
22 TSX debut
23 "Gilligan's Island" homes
24 St. ___ Mountains (Yukon range)
27 "Insecure" actress
30 Optometrist's question to a patient, maybe
35 Horse wagering site: Abbr.
36 Electrical units
37 Stir from sleep
38 One resting, as in wait
40 Obnoxiously uppity
44 Parisian "prize"
45 Wish upon ___
47 Groundbreaking farmer?
49 Banned pesticide
50 Therapist's question to a client, maybe
55 Breastbone
56 "A-laying" creatures, of song
57 Tiger's ex-wife
60 Mounties, for short
61 Tiler's calculation
63 Like a route driven off course ..... or like 18-, 30 and 50 Across, perhaps
69 Esso pump choice
70 Good-to-go signals
71 Script bit
72 Moose Jaw's "Mac the Moose", for one
73 Have the most golf strokes
74 "Split" hair parts

Down

1 Crow complaint
2 "Gross!"
3 Canadian sex educator Johanson
4 Margarine brand
5 "What good would ___?"
6 Pop by unannounced
7 Former store with a noted blanket, with "the"
8 Self-serving sort
9 '90s VP turned climate activist
10 Present, in Paisley
11 Where to place an Everest flag
12 The old you?
13 Weightiness
14 Pound sounds
19 ___ salts (bath additive)
20 Dress ___ (try to look like)
24 Green-related regulations
25 Nearing one's bedtime, perhaps
26 Still being tested, as an app
28 C-grade
29 ___ Lingus
31 "I'm thinking" sounds
32 Track racer's obstacle
33 Words for the audience only
34 "Drop a line," nowadays
39 Matted hair, metaphorically
41 No ___ road
42 Qualifications for a valedictorian
43 "__ durn tootin'!"
46 Thirsty threesome?
48 Canadian actor Seth of "Superbad"
51 Seussian shelled reptile
52 The "O" of TSO: Abbr.
53 Pop open, as a canning jar
54 Snoopy, for one
57 Itinerary guesses: Abbr.
58 Matane milk
59 Its tagline is "Bring Home to Life"
62 Prepared to say "Encore!"
64 New, in Nuremberg
65 Play Romeo with
66 Have the fewest golf strokes
67 "You were saying?"
68 Survey option

Win tickets to a Huskies game. Simply cut out this ad and include your contact details and drop it off at The Highlander during office hours to be entered into a draw. We will contact the winner Friday afternoon.

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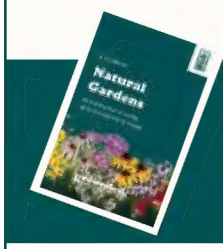

For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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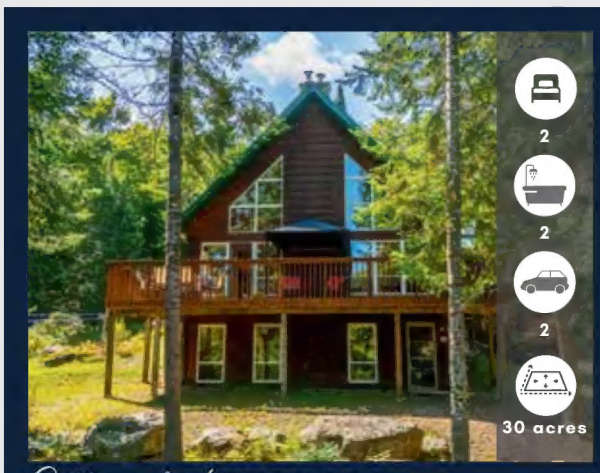
21



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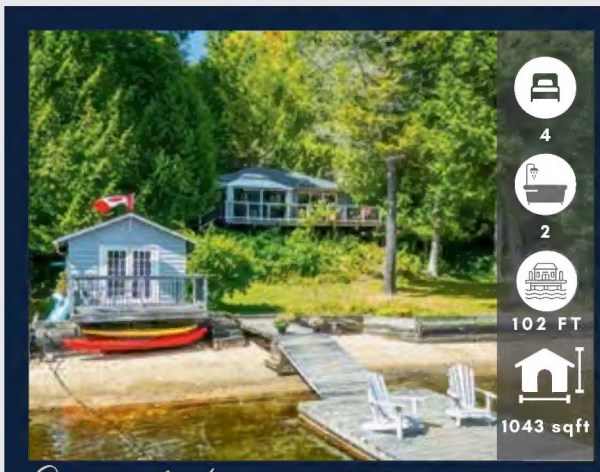
1166 CARROLL ROAD, HALIBURTON

Chalet-style retreat on 30 private acres! Open concept, stone fireplace, chef's kitchen, loft, walkout rec room, drive-through garage, and trails. Minutes to Haliburton. Move-in ready—explore 1166 Carroll Road!



Offered at $700,000

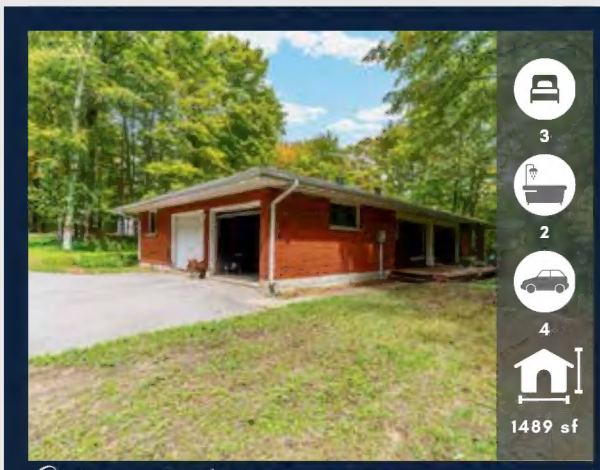
1291 SHANAHAN TRAIL, MINDEN

Turnkey cottage on Horseshoe Lake! Sandy beach, deep water off the dock, boathouse for lakeside entertaining, guest bunkie, and great lake views. Minutes to Minden. Move-in ready!

Offered at $575,000

1190 RITCHIE FALLS RD., MINDEN

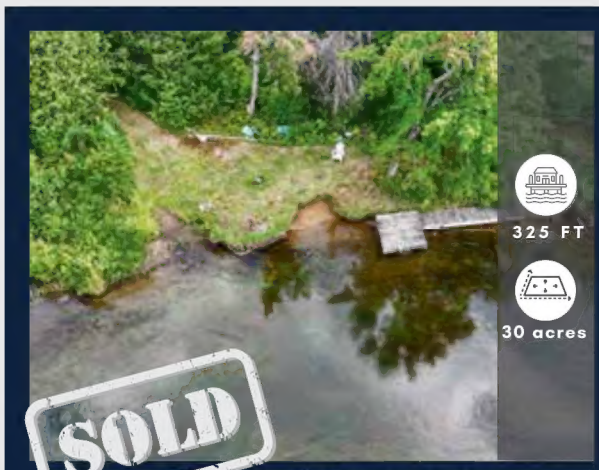
3-bedroom plus den, 3-bath bungalow with modern upgrades—new ensuite, finished basement, wet bar. Move-in ready comfort just 15 minutes to Haliburton or Minden, near trails and recreation.



Offered at $465,000

1204 WALKER LINE RD., ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS

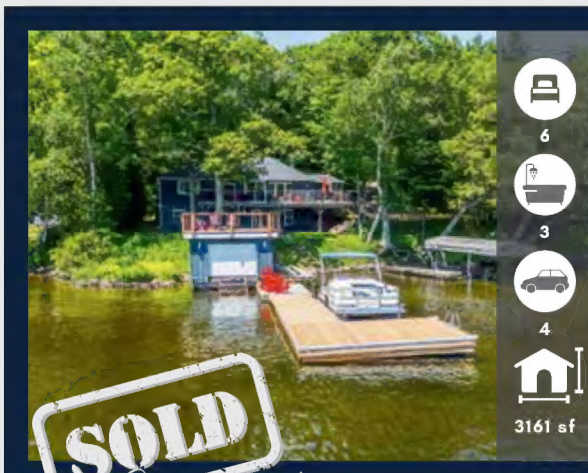
Custom brick bungalow on 1-acre treed lot! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, double attached and detached garages. Steps to Kushog Lake access. Solid home with great potential —make it your own!



Offered at $325,000

BRAELOCH RD., KENNISIS RIVER

Build your dream home or cottage on 1.07 acres with 325' Kennisis River frontage, sandy shoreline, southwest sun, and boat access to Halls Lake. Cleared site, driveway in, hydro at the lot line —build now!



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LITTLE BOSHKUNG LAKE

Lakefront retreat on Little Boshkung! 3-bed main cottage plus guest cabin, triple garage, single garage, boathouse with rooftop deck. Sunny, private lot—enjoy boating, swimming, and year-round comfort!

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